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		First Named Inventor	Kohji Kameda
		Art Unit	2189
		Examiner Name	T. Vu
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	1	Attorney Docket Number	R2184.0078/P078

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

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Signature	
Date	November 21, 2003



Handwritten signature: #S. Osh
Docket No.: R2184.0078/P078
(PATENT)

In re Patent Application of:
Kohji Kameda

Application No.: 09/609,399

Art Unit: 2189

Filed: July 3, 2000

Examiner: T. Vu

For: ARBITRATION METHOD OF A BUS
BRIDGE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 28, 2003 (Paper No. 7), please reconsider the above-identified application in light of the following remarks.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Abramson. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claim 8 recites an arbitration system comprising a bus bridge that is configured to give access rights equally to each of the secondary side buses, by not giving a priority to any one of the secondary side buses. Abramson discloses a USB arbiter using a rotating arbitration to select whether the first or second USB host controller has access to the bus. Abramson fails to teach or suggest giving access rights equally to each of the secondary side buses as well as not giving a

priority to any one of the secondary side buses. Abramson merely indicates that the rotating arbitration method selects USB controllers in a predetermined sequence. Thus, the Abramson device could have a predetermined arbitration sequence that is not equal, such as one USB controller having control of the bus for 2/3 of the access time to a primary bus and 1/3 of the time to the second USB controller, or any other conceivable sequence. Therefore, the rejection of claim 8 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Abramson in view of Glover. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claim 1 recites an arbitration method of a bus bridge, which interfaces "a primary-side bus with a plurality of secondary side buses." Claim 1 also says that the bus bridge supports "a plurality of kinds of operations one of which is an operation related to a serial bus in accordance with IEEE 1394." As noted in the Office Action, Abramson fails to teach or suggest an arbitration method in which the bus bridge supports a serial bus in accordance with IEEE 1394. In order to overcome this deficiency, the Office Action relies on Glover.

Glover refers to an integrated circuit for controlling the operation of a server hard disk and for processing digital data exchanged between a client and a storage media of the server hard disk drive. The circuit includes a data memory, a disk control circuitry, a write channel, a read channel, a servo unit, a motor control circuit and a digital signal processor. The Glover circuit is capable of interfacing with multiple buses, such as USB or IEEE 1394. Please note, however, that Glover fails to teach or suggest a serial bus in accordance with IEEE 1394 attempting to access the Host Bridge 115 (or vice versa), much less an arbitration method for managing a serial bus in accordance with IEEE 1394. To the contrary, Glover merely shows a hard disk drive integrated circuit having an IEEE 1394 interface. Applicant respectfully submits that

the rejection of claim 1 amounts to an attempt to use the claim as an instruction manual or template to piece together the invention, without adequate teachings and motivation in the prior art, which is improper. Dependent claims 3 and 5 should be allowable along with claim 1 and for other reasons.

Claims 2, 4 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Abramson in view of Glover, and further in view of Tang. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 2 and 4 depend from claim 1 and should be allowable at least for the reasons mentioned above with respect to claim 1. Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and should be allowable at least for the reasons mentioned above with respect to claim 8. In addition, please note that Tang does not teach or suggest an arbitration method giving an access right equally to each of secondary side buses. To the contrary, Tang discloses a memory arbiter and “a conventional x86 PC having a bursty bus such as PCI has multimedia performance improved by adding application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) ‘wrapper’ circuitry to smooth out the data transfers into a desired stream-like flow of multimedia data. The data transfers are from host (system) memory to ASIC ‘wrapper’ buffer memory for VSP consumption and vice versa.”

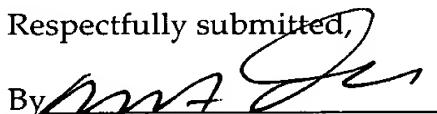
Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Abramson in view of Glover, and in further view of Quackenbush. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claim 6 should be allowable at least for reasons mentioned above with respect to claim 1. In addition, please note that Quackenbush merely discloses a single PCI local bus 22A coupled to a plurality of port controllers 26A-H and to a PCI bridge 38, and a round robin access scheme for accessing the single local PCI bus 22A when all of the port controllers 26A-H are the same type (column 4, lines 47-50). With respect to claim 7, Quackenbush fails to teach or suggest a “primary-side bus” and a “secondary-side bus” interfaced by a bus bridge in which the bus

bridge gives a highest priority to the primary-side bus, "when the primary-side bus lodges an access demand to the secondary-side buses irrespective of a condition of arbitration between the secondary-side buses." There is no *prima facie* case of unpatentability, and therefore the rejection of claims 6 and 7 should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: November 21, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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